

King's Children.

HOW CAN WE BEST REACH THE YOUNG PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH?

ELLEN GNAGEY.

I have in mind an ideal church. A church that will draw all men unto it; all its members love God with a whole heart, and their neighbors as themselves. They are devoted Christians, they are so full of Jesus Christ and His word, that any one coming into their presence can feel that they are Christians; they are whole-souled Christians every day in the week; they bear the fruits of the Spirit, "love, joy, and peace;" they do not do anything that they cannot ask God's blessing on, and they ask God's blessing on every thing that they do. They obey all of God's commands, doubting nothing. They are neither prejudiced, nor partial; they have among them the gifts of the Spirit. I Cor. 12. One has the word of wisdom, another the gift of knowledge, another faith, another the gift of healing, another the discerning of spirits, another the gift of tongues, another the interpretation of tongues; and because one does not have all these gifts, he is not envious, and does not believe that others cannot have them, but wishes them God speed in their work. They think evil of no one. *They go* "and teach all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things" whatsoever the Lord has commanded them, and the Lord is with them alway, even as He promised. Instead of scaring them into the church, *they teach them*, amplify the word, and love of God toward them. They teach them to repent, as being the only way of peace; if they have stolen they must confess, and make good the theft, and steal no more. If they have wronged their neighbor in any way they must make it right, if possible, instead of prevaricating, they tell the truth; their word is as good as a bond. They are baptized after the pattern that Jesus left us, and they do not try to make believe that any kind will do. Had as well argue that any kind of spirit will do, as to plead that any baptism will do. The Lord washed His disciples feet, and said that if ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them; they do these things, and receive the blessing. Believing that Jesus, "is the same yesterday, to-day, and forever, they lay hands on the sick, and they recover. For God answers their prayers; they prefer to attend a prayer-meeting, than sitting on the street corners and talk politics. They would rather do with a simple meal, than to keep some one home from church working to prepare them a

sumptuous repast; they eat to live, instead of living to eat.

They would rather go to Sunday-school with plain hair, than to spend an hour curling their hair, and be late. They read the Bible, and seek the kingdom of God first, and trust God for the rest.

They pull the beam out of their own eye, and leave the mote in their brother's eye alone. They owe no man anything, but to love one another, and they do love one another with that Divine love which Christ gave to the world. Pastors and church debts are paid, before money is spent for luxuries, cigars, tobacco, and gum. Interest in superfluous feathers, and gaudy hats, and dresses, find no place in their minds. But they send missionaries to foreign lands, and to the heathen corners of our own country. Instead of playing games, they talk about the goodness of God, and study His word, visit the sick, speak comforting words to the sorrowing and kind words to the fallen, and cheering words to the broken hearted. Instead of carrying life insurance, and urging others to do the same, they consider that they are their brother's keeper. In short they are serving God, instead of the devil, and are not half-hearted, and careless. They can invite the young people to the truth that will save them, and they feel the same interest in them that the Savior showed, in that His life became the light of the world, and we can walk in that light and not fall.

Our ideal church is a standing invitation to the young man who wishes to build on right principles, and arrive at real, true manhood, and also to the young woman who wishes to be what God intended every woman should be. It is true that we can not put old heads on young shoulders, and I assure you that we do not wish to do such a thing, for it is certain, that there will be no period in this life of the young man, or the young woman, when they can serve the Lord so well, as in their young days. Bright eyes, and clear minds, and strong muscles, are especially for the glory of God, and a pure heart is a rare gem of heaven's own crystal waters.

The older members should show an interest in, and a confidence in the young, and make them feel that there is some thing that they can do, and they can do it better than the older ones. For it is a fact that no music is so sweet as that which flows from the souls of the pure young people, that are engaged in the service of the Lord. There are no prayer-meetings that are so interesting as is the prayer-meeting of the young people. Do not tell them that it is too expensive to hold so many meetings in the church, and do not say on stormy nights, that there will

not be many out, and therefore we will light only a few lamps and have the church as gloomy as possible, when it ought to be the brighter.

I will give the following rules, which if followed out will give excellent results:

When it storms, and the night is dark, be sure to light every lamp in the church, and have the building as bright as possible.

When a young man, or a young woman comes in, do not fail to notice them, and speak to them, and while young life is generally jolly, let me say that it is not always so, there are moments when it is serious. I have known impressions made by a sermon on the young, to be destroyed by the foolish talking of older ones, before the congregation could get out of the house. Therefore let our conversation, on religious matters, with the young, be earnest, but cordial, and when they try to take part in the work of the church, do not be slow to let them know that their efforts are appreciated.

When you meet them, ask them to service, and remember, that young people of sense, do not like to be pampered, and treated as if they were infants, but as young men and young women.

Study the art of showing appreciation, without flattery, and you will have attained success in dealing with the young.

HOW THE K. O. HELP THE CHURCH.

Read at Warsaw K. C. Convention by CLARA D. WORST.

"Life is a folded flower and what it holds
We know not 'till unfolding leaf by leaf,
It shows God's secrets hidden in its folds,
And bears its fragrant heart to visions brief."

As each day's sunlight and even's dew unfold the petals of a rose and paint them in hues of carmine or gold, so each life's day draws out its portion of the slender thread and we weave it into a weft fine and rare. Light Heart seizes the sunbeams that gild the mountain tops and these are wrought with the clear azure of the Summer's sky, the living green of the fields and meadows; and the regal purple of the Autumn wood-lands; but Sad Heart weaves only the somber tints of night. Upon the scroll of yesterday is written thy actions that form one mighty column wherefrom thy true worth is estimated. Yesterday was thine, but it is gone forever, to-day is all thou dost possess, for to-morrow thou mayest never see. If the sculptor's chisel can make impressions on marble in a few hours which distant eyes shall read and admire, if the man of genius can create work in a life that shall speak the triumph of mind for a thousand years hence, then may faithful and consecrated King's Children do infinitely more.